

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

ABSTRACT

~~Of application~~ A ball joint for suspension and steering systems and/or stabilizer bars which are located in the vicinity of a source of excessive heat generation such as brake, ~~it basically incorporates~~ is provided with a thermal protector [(9)] integrated in the ball joint which presents a series of flexible radial plates [(10)] on its upper face defining interiorly a circular opening [(11)] which is attached to a connecting ring [(12)] previously fixed to the neck [(7)] of the dust boot [(6)] by overinjection or pressure and/or gluing, so that the thermal protector [(9)] covers the dust boot [(6)] in order to protect it from the high temperatures generated in the surrounding area.